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Andrews Academy students honored by National Merit Scholarship Corporation

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Phyllis Essex

instilled life lessons such as kindness and helpfulness, and always encouraged her students to do something for others. Essex said she rarely had a bad day at school, and in those 31 years of teach-

ing, there weren't more than two days that she didn't wake up in the morning excited about her job. Even when going through a major illness, Essex continued to teach. Her biggest concern was that her students' schedules were not disrupted by her absence.

"Teaching is the best job in the world," says Essex. "No two days are the same, and to be able to touch the life of a child is a great privilege."

James Davis, BCA principal, says, "Phyllis is a kind, Christlike, dedicated master teacher who has served this community for [more than] 30 years as a teacher at Battle Creek Academy. I am saddened to see her retire, but am very excited to be able to tap into her wealth of knowledge and experience as she continues to serve on a part-time basis

in our K-2 classroom next year. The world is in dire need of more teachers like Phyllis."

Former students and their parents also testify of their appreciation for Essex. One of her former students, Tana Moon, now a wife and mother, says of her second-grade teacher, "She was special inside and out — dedicated to God and to her students. I have many special memories of her."

Essex and her husband, Phil, both graduated from BCA in 1965. Though Essex will teach at the academy next year on a part-time basis, she and Phil plan to spend more time with their two children and two grandchildren in Colorado and Nebraska.

Charlotte Erickson, communication director,
Battle Creek Tabernacle

Andrews Academy students honored by National Merit Scholarship Corporation

Michigan—Andrews Academy is pleased to announce that two of its students from the 2012–2013 school year were recognized as finalists and one a commended scholar in the National Merit Scholarship Awards.

Jessica Snively, of South Bend, Ind., received a letter of commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. She was a four-year senior at Andrews Academy. Sarah Johnston, of Saint Joseph, Mich., also was a four-year senior at Andrews Academy. She and Andrew Krause were National Merit finalists. Krause, of Benton Harbor, Mich., was a three-year senior. All three students were members of Andrews Academy's chapter of the National Honor Society.

"We congratulate our three National Merit seniors. We are so proud of each of them, and for every member of the class of 2013," says Robert



From left: Sarah Johnston and Andrew Krause (National Merit finalists) and Jessica Snively (National Merit commended scholar) were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation for their exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

Overstreet, Andrews Academy principal. "We pray that all our students will continue to develop academically and spiritually ... every year of their lives."

The two seniors National Merit finalists at Andrews Academy accounted for approximately four percent of their class. The finalists and commended scholar were awarded scholarships at commencement, held May 23.

The finalists in each year's National Merit Scholarship program show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. Approximately 1.5 million students from 22,000 high schools entered the 2013 National Merit Scholarship program by taking the 2011 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship qualifying tests (PSAT/NMSQT). These students are the highest-scoring entrants, and represent less than one percent of each state's high-school seniors.

About 34,000 commended students throughout the nation were recognized this year for their exceptional academic promise.

Andrews Academy is a four-year college prep school located on the campus of Andrews University.

Steven Atkins, biology and earth science
teacher, Andrews Academy